

PHYSICAL THERAPY BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

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CLINICAL SERVICE REQUIREMENT FOR FOREIGN EDUCATED PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

APPLICANTS WHO ARE NOT LICENSED IN THE UNITED STATES

Under Section 2653 of the Business and Professions Code of California, foreign educated physical therapists are required to complete a period of clinical service under the direct and immediate supervision of a physical therapist licensed by the Board which does not exceed nine months in a location approved by the Board, in a manner satisfactory to the Board. The applicant shall have passed the National Physical Therapy Examination prior to commencing the period of clinical service. However, at any time after three months of service, an individual may petition the board for a waiver of further clinical service (in accordance with Section 1398.26 (c) & (d) of the California Code of Regulations) by having the Waiver Request form completed by the Center Clinical Coordinator of Education (CCCE) and/or Clinical Instructor(s).

Clinical sites are approved on a case-by-case basis. Please have the facility you select to fulfill your clinical service requirement submit a completed American Physical Therapy Association (APTA) Clinical Site Information Form (CSIF) to the Board for approval. If the facility does not already have a CSIF on file, one can be downloaded from the APTA Web site, http://www.apta.org (please indicate on question #8 of the CSIF if the number of budgeted positions is different from the number of filled positions.) During the period of clinical service, until you are issued a license as a physical therapist by the Board, you shall be identified as a "physical therapist license applicant". However, you do not have physical therapist license applicant status until the Board has approved your facility, received the Notice of Intent to Supervise form, and you have received written notification from the Board. Upon conclusion of each three-month period, the Quarterly Report or Waiver Request form must be completed, accompanied by the APTA Physical Therapist Clinical Performance Instrument (performance evaluation), and submitted to this office within 15 days. Copies of the CPI (Clinical Performance Instrument) are available at this office upon request.

A postcard will be mailed to you once the office receives the CSIFs, Quarterly Reports/Waiver Requests and CPIs. Please allow 3 weeks for the Physical Therapy Board of California (PTBC) to review these documents. Do not contact the PTBC during this time frame, as we will not check on the status of these documents. A letter will be mailed notifying you of the status of your CSIF/Notice of Intent or Waiver Request/CPI.

APPLICANTS WHO ARE LICENSED IN THE UNITED STATES

For those applicants who have been licensed and working as a physical therapist in another state for at least nine months, a waiver of further clinical service can be requested. Verification of completion of a period of clinical service in another state is required. Please fill out the attached Work Verification form and submit it to the PTBC.

For those applicants who have been licensed and working in another state for less than 9 months, the clinical service requirement will be reduced by one month for each month of licensure in another state, provided that letters of verification are submitted as specified above.